



February 8, 2019

Welcome to SWFREC Update E-news! This newsletter is distributed biweekly and contains news about the center and its faculty and staff, program research updates, and upcoming events.

Web site: <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Social media:  

Critical Issue Ag Discussion with Legislators: Topics including algae blooms, red tide, water demand and supply, and NAFTA were on the table at a recent meeting at SWFREC that included UF/IFAS expert presentations, a grower panel, and comments from elected officials. For a report on the meeting, click here: [https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/news-items/2019-02-01-Discusion Local Ag Issues Legislators.pdf](https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/news-items/2019-02-01-Discusion%20Local%20Ag%20Issues%20Legislators.pdf).



Faculty Presentations: Three SWFREC faculty members recently made presentations to growers and other industry representatives:

- Citrus pathologist Dr. Ozgur Batuman presented “Citrus Greening: Scouting, Symptoms, Life Cycle, Epidemiology, Damage, Management” at a citrus squeezer program at SWFREC. Afterwards, he was interviewed by Ernie Neff, senior correspondent at large for Citrus Industry magazine, for a Citrus Industry News online segment. To read an article and listen to a recording of the interview, click here: <http://citrusindustry.net/2019/01/25/using-ipm-for-hlb/>.
- Precision ag engineer Dr. Yiannis Ampatzidis presented “UAVs and Precision Agriculture for Sugarcane” at a sugarcane agronomy workshop at the UF/IFAS Everglades Research and Education Center in Belle Glade titled “Updates on Nutrient Management, Weed Management, Precision Ag and Other Crop Management Practices.”
- Plant physiologist Dr. Ute Albrecht presented “Preharvest Abscisic Acid Application to Alleviate Chilling Injury of Sweet Basil (*Ocimum basilicum* L.) During Cold Storage” and “Use of Microbial-based and Other ‘Plant Biostimulant’ Materials in Crop Production” at a Friday Seminar Series hosted by the UF/IFAS Everglades Research and Education Center in Belle Glade.

New Extension Paper: “Biology and Management of Tropical Whiteweed (*Ageratum conyzoides*) in Citrus Groves” is a new document that can be found on the UF/IFAS Electronic Data Information Source site. Weed scientist Dr. Ramdas Kanissery is a co-author on the paper. To read the document, click here: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs1325>.

Upcoming Events:

Citrus Squeezer: “All You Need to Know about Scouting and Management of Citrus Insect Pests”

February 14, 2019, 10:00am-1:00pm

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SWFREC entomologist Dr. Jawwad Qureshi will present “Scouting and Managing Citrus Pests and Beneficials” and senior biological scientist Barry Kostyk will present “Scouting and Managing Citrus Rust Mites.” For complete agenda and to register, click

here: https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2019-02-14_Scouting_Management_Citrus_Insect_Pests.pdf.

SWFREC Vegetable Advisory Committee Meeting

February 19, 2019, 6:00-8:00pm

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To RSVP, please contact Jennifer at 239-658-3415 or jderleth@ufl.edu.

Remote Pilot Certificate Training

April 3, 2019, 9:00am-4:00pm (Eastern)

UF/IFAS North Florida Research and Education Center, Quincy (same training session will be offered at SWFREC in the near future; details to come)

In order to obtain a Remote Pilot Certificate from the FAA under the Small UAS (Part 107) rule, you must pass the initial aeronautical knowledge exam. This training will prepare you to pass this exam and obtain your certificate.

Registration information:

- UF Faculty and Staff Registration link (password: Gator2019): <https://bit.ly/2Moio3w>. No cost.
- Farmer or Commercial Operator Registration link: <https://bit.ly/2AVzy44>. Cost is \$75.



Certified Crop Advisor Workshop

April 10, 2019, 7:45am-6:45pm

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For those who hold a Certified Crop Advisor license ONLY. Ten CEUs will be offered in nutrient and pest management. Registration information will be emailed to CCAs soon.

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